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AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE DUVAL UNITED CHURCH -- 1910 - 1970

In the year 1910 religious services were begun in Duval. These services were supplied by the Presbyterian Church until the spring of 1913. They were attended by all denominations and were supported as Union services.

Early in the year 1913 an arrangement was made by which the conduct of these services was taken over by the Methodist Church. Rev. Crabbe from Strasbourg conducted these services in the hall. A student minister conducted them for the summer then he was followed by Mr. Albert Flook, a probationer for the Methodist ministry, who continued the work until June 1915. Then he enlisted in the world war in 1916 and was killed in action in 1918. It may be said that Mr. Flook was the first to begin a record of membership.

In the year 1914 the land which is now the church grounds was bought in the name of the Methodist church by a few men who were appointed as Trustees. They were:-

Mr. J. J. Doupe  
Mr. Henry Smith  
Mr. C. W. Frizzell  
Mr. Alf Richardson  
Mr. Harry Thompson

Rev. Edward Smith succeeded Mr. Flook in July 1915 and continued till June 1918. It was during the first part of his ministry that the parsonage was built and he and his wife were the first to live in it.

Rev. Harold Coveney succeeded Rev. Smith in July 1918 and continued till June 1921. It was during his ministry the church was built.

The building was started in September 1919 and was opened for worship in January 1920 and dedicated on July 11, 1920. The cost of the church was \$6,700.00. \$3,900.00 were raised by subscriptions and the balance of \$2,800.00 were provided for by a mortgage.

The Ladies Aid took over the work of raising funds to pay off the debt. I understand they payed \$300.00 a year plus interest.

The Sunday School room was used for a day school at that time, and from what information I can gather, about the time of 1924 or 25 the pipes became overheated, causing a fire. The only way of putting out the fire was carrying water by pails from wells in town and that is just what they did and were able to save the church.

There was \$1,500.00 damage done to the church but the insurance covered the damage for repairs.



In the year of 1920 three of the first Trustees moved away so:

Mr. Jack Smith  
Mr. R. J. Chandler  
Mr. T. Armour

were added to the Board of Trustees.

I would like to mention that Mr. T. Armour is the only one of the original trustees living at the present time.

Rev. Coveney was followed by Rev. Morton, who was minister from July, 1920 to July, 1923. Rev. Morton was followed by Rev. Robinson, who was the minister till July, 1927. During this period the Church Union Movement was consummated on June 19, 1925.

Rev. Robinson was followed by Rev. Heaney.

During these years the Ladies Aid had been paying on the mortgage. I understand the mortgage was burned around 1929 with Mrs. Wm. Reid burning the mortgage as she was president of the Ladies Aid at that time.

Rev. Heaney stayed until July, 1933 and was followed by:-

Rev. McLeod	1933-1935
Rev. Sterling	1935-1938
Rev. Pollard	1938-1941
Rev. Banting	1941-1943
Mr. T. Hamilton	1943-1944
Miss Jacqueline Dorherty	1945
Rev. Rice	1945-1950

After Rev. Rice left, Duval had student ministers for the next few years, namely:-

Irma McKee	Fred Cline
Don Mayne	John Angus
Reg Brown	Maurice Gardner
A. Stanislave	Art Cross
Doreen Smith	Carl Duggan
Jim Trembley	Munroe Frampton

In the summer of 1957 Govan, Duval and Cymric amalgamated with Rev. Parker as our minister until 1960.

In 1960-61 we had Rev. De Hamel  
1961-1964, Rev. Frank Baldock  
1964-1966, Rev. Stewart Smith

Rev. John Harvey 1966 to May, 1969. Following Rev. Harvey's death we had a minister from Regina to finish the summer. Our present minister is Rev. Terry Shillington.



I would like to add that during the years there have been many improvements to the church, also the Board of Trustees, Board of Stewarts and the Elders have changed many times, but time does not allow me to mention all names. A lot of credit goes to both the people of the past and the people of the present for the fine work they have done in order for us to keep our church and be able to celebrate this day of fifty years since our church was built.

All dates and records are to the best of my knowledge as to the information I have been able to find.

Margaret Frizzell

### 50 YEARS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK IN DUVAL

The first minutes available were November 12, 1919, at which time a meeting of the Sunday School Board of Managers was held at the Methodist Parsonage for the purpose of organizing a Sunday School.

The following officers were elected:- Superintendent - Mr. R. Chandler; Treasurer - Mrs. Jennie Curriston; Ass't Treasurer - Mr. Howard Frizzell; Organist - Mrs. Curriston; Ass't Organist - Miss Ada Frizzell; Cradle Roll Superintendent - Mrs. DeKay; Beginners Class - Miss Brown; Primary Class - Mrs. M. A. Boyd; Intermediate Girls - Mrs. R. Agar; Intermediate Boys - Miss Ada Frizzell; Bible Class - Rev. Coveney. Also present at that meeting were:- Mr. Jack Smith and Mr. Chas. Frizzell.

The second meeting was held December 4, 1919, at which the following motion was moved by Mr. Chandler, seconded by Mrs. Boyd and passed: That the financial condition arising out of the old Sunday School be left in the hands of Rev. Coveney. This motion shows that a Sunday School was in operation previous to November 12, 1919 but for how long we cannot say. From information we understand that Mr. Jack Smith was the first Superintendent. It is unfortunate that no minutes or other records are available until November 12, 1919.

On August 26, 1923, Mr. M. Essery was elected Sunday School Superintendent and held that office for over 30 years, at which time Mr. Don Essery was elected to the office and remained Superintendent until 1961 when Mr. Allan Essery took over. Allan has held this position until the present time with the exception of one year when Mrs. Williard McGillivray was Superintendent. Owing to very brief minutes, many dates are not available. We would like to mention all the teachers and officers who gave of their time and talents. A list as nearly correct as possible is available for any who wish to see same.



One of the outstanding projects of our Sunday School was the adoption of two Korean children. The first was adopted in November, 1957 and the Sunday School became Foster Parents of Kim Kwang Soo until 1962 when Kim decided he was old enough to go on his own. On October 20, 1963 the Sunday School adopted a Korean girl named Sun Hi Lee and were her Foster Parents until June, 1969, when we were informed of a change of ownership. The Unitarian Service Committee was no longer sponsoring this project. It is noted that the cost of adoption for the first year was \$60.00 and the last year was \$120.00, just double in 12 years.

We wish to mention a gift of money to the Sunday School in memory of Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Reeby that was used to purchase the Baptismal Font, which was appreciated.

From the records the peak Sunday School attendance would appear to be in 1927 when on March 27, 1927 the attendance was 67 and on April 3, 1927 attendance was 68 and on April 24, 1927 attendance was 72.

In the early days one of the highlights was the Sunday School Picnics which were well patronized and enjoyed by young and old.

In closing we would like to mention three outstanding supporters of the Bible Class, namely: Ma Pauling, Grandma Flowers and Mrs. Jane McKenna. These three were faithful in attendance and took such an interest in the Bible Class.

There were many more faithful workers through the years who gave of their time and efforts.

The present teachers and officers who are still carrying on the work are:  
 Superintendent -- Mr. Allan Essery  
 Secretary -- Mrs. Harry Coles  
 Teachers -- Mrs. Wallace May, Mrs. Fred Johnson, Mrs. Frank Blake,  
 Mrs. Stan Frizzell, Mr. Leonard Jones, Mr. Allan  
 Essery, Miss Pat Frizzell and Miss Brenda Essery.

Mr. M. Essery

#### LADIES AID REPORT

No early records could be found as to the start of the Duval Methodist Church Ladies Aid. Active church members reported much help and encouragement from the ladies group, from helping to pay off the mortgage, to paying the church caretaker, the fire insurance policies and the upkeep of the manse.

Their main money raising projects were fowl suppers, bazaars, teas and sponsoring plays prepared by Duval friends and neighboring districts. The fowl suppers kept tasty and hot on coal-oil stoves, were followed by gay concerts of musical items, skits and playlets.



## THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church was organized on July 23, 1914. The meetings were held in the homes. A women's Missionary Monthly magazine provided inspiring material for the programs. Devotionals prepared for the monthly meetings included many musical items. All monies were donated to be forwarded to the district treasurers.

Many bales of warm clothing were donated to supply secretaries for distribution to the needy, as well as warm quilts made by the ladies. A large baby band meeting each July was sponsored by the Missionary Society. The children would supply a musical programme followed by games and home-made ice cream. Active C.G.I.T. groups organized and carried out worthwhile programmes when enough girls of the district were available.

## THE WOMEN'S FEDERATION and THE UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

To eliminate two meetings each month for the ladies, the Women's Federation was formed on April 1, 1948. This was a union of the Women's Missionary Society and the Women's Association. This Federation hoped to provide all the women of the church with a medium for fellowship and service both in congregational affairs and the general work of the United Church of Canada and to share in the general missionary work of the church through the Presbyterial of the Women's Missionary Society. In January, 1950 we accepted the sponsorship of the child's health clinic in Duval.

Keeping up with the changes, our group accepted the new name, The United Church Women, January, 1962.

Mrs. Jean Holman